Modernisation of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited

1177. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided not to proceed with the modernisation scheme prepared by consortium of Japanese firms for Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited at Burnpur and Kulti and asked M/s. M. N. Dastur and Company for a second professional advice in the matter; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether the modernisation programme will be delayed as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Modernisation of Burnpur Works of IISCO stands approved in principle by the Government. Based on the report submitted by the Japanese Consulting Companies, SAIL have approached Government for an investment decision on the modernisation of IISCO. Keeping in view the high estimated cost of the project, Government have sought a second professional opinion from M/s. M. N. Dastur & Co. on the approach to the modernisation investment. The report is likely to be received from the Consultant by the end of March, 1990. Keeping all the relevant factors in view, including the Japanese proposal, a most cost effective investment decision with optimum utilisation of indigenous capabilities will be taken thereafter.

(b) The implications on the time frame would be known after finalisation of the strategy for implementation of the project. The Government will however take expeditious decision in the matter.

Number of Bank branches in the country

1178. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of branches of banks in the country at the end of February, 1990 and the number of people served by each branch on an average;

(b) whether Government propose to continue the policy of opening new branches in the rural and semi-urban areas; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE FINANCE MINISTER (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) As on 31-12-1989 (latest available figures), 58,417 branches of various banks were functioning in the country. The average population per bank office for the country was 12,000.

(b) and (c) The current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985—90, co-terminus with Seventh Five Year Plan, will come to an end on 31st of March, 1990. The new Branch Licensing Policy is at present being finalised by the Reserve Bank of India.

विदेशों में स्थित दूतावासों/कार्यालयों के व्यय की लेखा परीक्षा

1179. **श्रीमती सत्या बहिन :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत और विदेशों में स्थित कार्यालयों के व्यय की लेखा परीक्षा कराने मे समान स्तर के अधिकारी/कर्मचारी लगे हुए हैं ; यदि हां, तो ऐसे कर्मचारियों को अलग-अलग कितना दैनिक भत्ता प्रदान किया जाता है ; और

(ख) क्या विदेशों में स्थित दूतावासों और कार्यालयों के व्यय की लेखा परीक्षा नई दिल्ली से ही कराया जाना सम्भव नहीं है ?